Good morning, now we have been asking to choose an aspect of European clothing or fashion and to talk about its development over time

I decided to focus on a rather small area of clothing and that’s pockets

I chose pockets for two reasons really

We all have them in jeans, jackets, coats, for example – and even though we often carry bags or briefcases as well, nothing is quite convenient as being able to pop your phone or credit card into your pocket.

I suspect that other than that, people don’t really think about pockets too much, and they are rather overlooked as a fashion item

It is certainly very interesting to go back in time and see hw pockets developed for men and women

In the 18th century, fashion were quite different from now and pockets were too.

If we think about male fashion first, that’ was the time wear suits became popular

Material and pockets were sewn into this cloth by whichever tailor the customer used

The wearer could then carry small objects such as pencils or coins on their person and reach them through a gap in the lining

Coat pockets became increasingly decoravite on the outside for men who wanted to look stylish by someone with a profession who needed to carry medical instruments a doctor or physician.

The development of women's pockets was a little different

For one thing, they weren’t nearly as visible or as easy to reach as men’s

Women carried numerous position of the person and some of these could be worth a lot of money

Women worried to theft and wealthy women in particular worried constantly about pickpockets

So pair of pockets made that were tied together with string

The pocket were made fabric, which might be recycled cloth if the wearer had little money

Women tied the pockets around their waist so they hung beneath their clothes

Skirts were long then and there was plenty of room to hide the whole range of small possession between the layers of petticoats that were commonly worn.

They would have an opening in the folds of their skirts throngh which they could reach whatever they needed, like perfume

Inside of the clothing reach their knees

So the tie on pockets only changed when fashion altered to the end of the period

That's when dresses became tighter and less bulky, and the pairs of pockets became very noticeable – they stood out too much and detracted from the woman's image.

Wear